

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01

PRS-01 /104 W

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R 281245Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7729

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISTANBUL 2860

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BGEN, ENRG, TU

SUBJ: OIL EXPLORATION DRILLING BY U. S. FIRM

GLOBAL MARINE

REF: (A) ISTANBUL 2689 (B) ISTANBUL 2720

(C) STATE 179230 (D) ANKARA 5564

1. GLOBAL MARINE PROJECT MANAGER KRUEGER NOTIFIED
CONGENOFF THAT TURKISH PETROLEUM CORP. (TPAO) INFORMED HIM
EVENING OF JULY 26 THAT THIRD DRILLING SITE HAS BEEN CHANGED FROM
SAROS

BAY IN AEGEAN TO SOUTHWESTERN PART OF BLACK SEA NEAR TOWN
OF AKCAKOCA (APPROX. 50 KILOMETERS WEST OF ZONGULDAK). GLOBAL
MARINE WILL DRILL AN ADDITIONAL TWENTY METERS INTO APPARENT BASEMENT
AT PRESENT MARMARA SITE, CAP WELL AND WITHDRAW WITHIN NEXT TWO-
THREE DAYS. HE BELIEVES BLACK SEA SITE IS "VERY FIRM", AND EXPECTS
TO HAVE RIG AT NEW DRILLING LOCATION BY JULY 31.

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2. REASON GIVEN BY TPAO FOR CHANGE IN DRILLING SITE WAS THAT SEISMIC

DATA FOR SAROS BAY AREA INCOMPLETE. KREUGER STATES HE
WAS TOLD EXPLICITLY BY TPAO THAT TURKISH RESEARCH
SHIP SISMIK I WAS SCHEDULED TO RESEARCH IN SAROS BAY AREA AS FIRST
PRIORITY IN ORDER TO COMPLETE DATA ON PROPOSED DRILLING SITE. KREUGER

EXPECTS TO SPEND APPROX. ONE MONTH AT BLACK SEA SITE DRILLING
TO 6600 FEET, THEN PROCEED TO SAROS BAY.

3. COMMENT: KREUGER SPECULATES THAT BOTH SITE PROPSALS(SAROS
BAY AND BLACK SEA) WERE HASTY DECISIONS MADE BY TPAO WITHOUT
ADEQUATE PREPARATION AND THAT SAROS BAY SITE HAD BEEN OVER-
RULED AT HIGHER LEVELS IN THE GOT. WE BELIEVE MOST LIKELY
EXPLANATION
IS THAT GOT IN CONTEXT OF EFFORTS TO RESOLVE DISPUTE WITH GREEK
GOVERNMENT OVER SISMIK I ACTIVITIES RECONSIDERED ITS EARLIER
DECISION TO DONDUCT DRILLING IN AREA SO CLOSE TO GREEK TURKISH BORDER
EVEN THOUGH IT IS WITHIN UNDISPUTED TURKISH TERRITORIAL WATERS.
BATJER

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NNN

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